دے رکھے ہیں۔ یہ چیز آپ کے جواب میں صاف نہیں ہوئی یہ بنیادی بات صاف ہونی چاہیئے۔ اسمیں کوئی شکایت کی بات نہیں ہے۔ اگر کوئی اعتراض کر رہا ہے تو میں سمجھتا ہوں کہ اسمیں چیئرمین کو کوئی اعتراض نہیں ہونا چاہیئے۔

उपसभापति : मुझे कोई ऐतराज नहीं है।

श्री सिकन्दर बख्त: उनकी इनायत उनका करम, शुक्रिया अदा करता हूं। लेकिन बुनियादी बात यह मालूम होनी चाहिए कि क्या मिडिल मैन की जगह मिडिल कंपनियां आ गई है?

†شری سکندر بخت: انکی عنایت انکا کرم۔ شکریہ ادا کرتا ہوں۔ لیکن بنیادی بات یہ معلوم ہونی چاہیئے کہ کیا میڈل مین کی جگہ میڈل کمپنیاں آگئی ہیں۔]

उपसभापति: सिकन्दर बख्त साहब, जब मंत्री जवाब देते हैं तो वह कोई इनायत करता नहीं होता, यह उनकी जिम्मेदारी होती है। यह सरकार की जिम्मेदारी है।

श्री सतीश अग्रवाल (राजस्थान) : आज के जमाने में जिम्मेदारी निभाना भी करम है। वह धन्यवाद के पात्र है।

उपसभापति: उन्होंने अपनी जिममेदारी निभायी। मंत्री जी अगर मेंबर चाहते हैं हाफ-एन-आवर डिसेक्शन इस सबजक्ट पर कर सकते हैं। अब मामला यहीं पर खत्म होता है।

†[ ]Transliteration in Arabic Script

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL:—**Notification of the Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment** (Shri Saleem Iqbal Sherwani) Madam, On behalf of

DR. U. VENKATESWARLU: I lay on the Table, under sub-section (3) of Section 22 of the Employment of Manual Scavengers and Construction of Dry Latrines (Prohibition) Act, 1993 a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Urban Affairs and Employment Notification G.S.R. No. 265, dated the 21st June, 1997 publishing the Employment of Manual Scavengers and Construction of Dry Latrines (Prohibition) (Central) Rules, 1997.

THE MINISTRY OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR **Notification of the Ministry of Labour: Shri M.P.Veerender Kumar:** Madam I lay on the Table, under sub-section (4) of Section 97 of the Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948 a copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Labour Notification G.S.R. No. 225, dated the 10th May, 1997 publishing the amendment to the ESI (Central) Rules, 1950

[Placed in Library *See* No. LT 2272/97]

THE MINISTERS OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE: (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY) **Report and Accounts (1995—96) of the Acharya Harihar Regional Centre for cancer Research and Treatment Society, Cuttack and related Papers:** Madam lay on the Table a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

(i) Annual Report and Accounts of the Acharya Harihar Regional Centre for Cancer Research and Treatment Society, Cuttak, for the year 1995-96 together with the Audit Report on the Accounts.

(ii) Review by Government on the working of the above centre.

(iii) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (i) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT 2292/97]

RE: LEAKAGE OF POISONOUS GAS FROM STERLITE INDUSTRY IN TUTICORIN IN TAMILNADU

*SHRI N. RAJENDRAN (TAMILNADU) :Madam, Deputy Chairperson, with a sense of paralysing calamity, I wish to bring to the notice of the Government through this august House, a serious matter regarding Sterlite Industry at Tuticorin in Tamilnadu. Because of leakage of poisonous gas from the Sterlite Industry last month, over 120 people have been affected. Not only people working in the industries but also those living in the surrounding areas have been affected. People of Tuticorin, the capital of my district, are living in the grip of fear for they think that something like Bhopal gas tragedy might take place in Sterlite Industries too. But I am sorry to say that even one month after such serious incident, neither the state nor the Central Government have taken any action.

Madam, I welcome setting up of industries for they provide employment opportunities and help in the economic development of the areas. But if any industry poses danger to the lives of people living around, I shall even sacrifics my life to stop the entry of such industries.

SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI (Uttar Pradesh): Madam, I seek your indulgence. yesterday this question of Sanjay Ghosh was raised.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let him finish....*(Interruption)*...
I am not allowing you.

SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATRUVEDI: The Prime Minister should be requested to make a statement.

SHRI N. RAJENDRAN: Madam, this Sterlite Industry was being set up at Ratnagiri in Maharashtra sometime in 1994. But when the Government and the people of Maharashtra Opposed it, the Industry was shifted to Tuticorin in Tamilnadu.

Madam, the management of the Sterlite Industry has claimed to have spent Rs. 1000 crores for setting up the industry out of which Rs. 300 crores is said to have been spent on pollution control equipments. It is difficult to belive this because, the machineries used in the Industry were manufactured some thirty years ago. Even the Environmental Council of the United Nations has also disapproved such machineries.

This Sterlite Industry uses the Tamirabarani river water for its needs. But the irony is that the people of my district face acute shortage of water for both drinking and irrigation. They also depend on Tamirabarani river water for their existence. This apart, the effluents of the factory which are discharged into the sea affect the fishes and thereby the livelihood of the fishermen of Tuticorin and adjoining coastal area is threatened.

In view of the gravity of the situation, I appeal to the centre to send a high level expert Committee to Tuticorin to make a thorough study of the industry and submit a detailed report on the safety measures of the industries. If the report indicates even one per cent danger to the people around the factory, the centre should direct the state Government to withdraw permission to Sterlite Industry and ask it to wind up immediately. With these words I conclude.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: This was his maiden speech on a very important subject. Shri Rajan Chellappa. Not present.

SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES (Goa): Madam Deputy Chairman, what I want to say is that he has raised a relevant point. Madam, there was also a pollutant industry in our State, Nylon-66. Some politician got them a lincence for a bribe

* English translation of the original speech delivered in Tamil.